THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Following the withdrawal of the incentives by the State Government of Orissa in February 2002, based on which the project was planned, the viability of the project was adversely affected. As per the appraisal done by ICICI, the project may not be viable with the existing package of incentives/concessions making funding of the project difficult. IOC has taken up the matter for restoration of the tax incentives with the State Government. The project completion schedules are under review by IOC.

(b) The project cost has increased from Rs. 8,312 crore at August, 1999 prices to Rs. 12,400 crore at October 2001 prices.

(c) An expenditure of Rs. 558 crore has been incurred on the pre-project activities including land acquisition. An amount of Rs. 1,050 crore has been committed on the project.

Re-structuring of ONGC

1461. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether oil production by the ONGC is falling since 1998 inspite of increase in manpower;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to review the lop sided-organizational structure of ONGC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) There has been a decrease in the manpower of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) from 42158 in 1998 to 39827 in 2002 (as on 1st October). The production of crude oil did come down from 26.385 Million Metric Tonne (MMT) in 1998-99 to 24.708 MMT in 2001-2002. However, the production of oil has gone up by 7.63% during April-September, 2002 over the corresponding period last year.

The main reason for the decline in production is that ONGC's major oilfields, including Mumbai High, have entered the natural declining

phase with age. However, as per the international practice, ONGC have initiated Increased Oil Recovery (IOR)/Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR) schemes to arrest this decline.

(c) The steps taken/proposed to be taken by ONGC from time to time for restructuring the organization are:—

(i) Organizational restructuring exercise under Corporate Rejuvenation Campaign (CRC) to address the imbalances in availability and requirement of manpower throughout the organisation.

(ii) Proposal for introduction of an attractive Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) for rationalisation and optimal realignment of existing manpower strength.

(iii) Systematic manpower assessment linked with organisational need being undertaken at various operations and other areas.

Appointment of judges in DSB

1462. SHRI C. O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state;

(a) the names of retired judges appointed in the Dealer Selection Board since its inception along with the duration of their service in the DSB by each of these judges;

(b) whether it is a fact that many of these judges were replaced shortly after their appointments to the DSB.

(c) if so, the names of the judges replaced and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of parameters by which the selection of the members to the DSB was done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) The names of the retired judges who were appointed as the Chairman of the erstwhile dealer Selection Board (DSBs) since 12.6.2000. *i.e.* the date on which the erstwhile DSBs were reconstituted, along with their dates of appointment and dates of relief, are given in Statement-I. (*See* below)

(b) and (c) the names of the Chairman of the erstwhile DSBs whose